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City marks Motorcycle Safety Awareness Month

THE COLONY, Texas — The Texas Department of Transportation [reports](#) that over the past five years, 2,354 motorcyclists have been killed in Texas. In 2014, Texas motorcycle crashes killed 455 motorcyclists. Half of the motorcyclists killed were not wearing a helmet at the time of the crash. One-third of motorcycle fatalities took place at intersections.

With those numbers and other safety concerns in mind, the City of The Colony recently proclaimed May as Motorcycle Safety Awareness Month in The Colony. Mayor Joe McCourry read the proclamation during the City Council's regular meeting on April 21.



“It is the responsibility of all who put themselves behind the wheel to become aware of motorcyclists, regarding them with the same respect as any other vehicle traveling the highways of this country,” McCourry said.

To echo the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, which declares national recognition of Motorcycle Safety Awareness Month, all motorists are reminded to safely share the road with motorcycles and to be extra alert to help keep motorcyclists safe. In turn, motorcyclists are reminded to make themselves visible to other motorists.

“Motorcyclists are roughly unprotected and much more likely to be injured or killed in a crash than other vehicle drivers,” McCourry said, urging “all of our community to become aware of the inherent danger involved in operating a motorcycle, and for riders and motorists alike to give each other the mutual respect they deserve.”

In launching its “Look Twice for Motorcycles” campaign this month, TxDOT Executive Director Lt. Gen (Ret.) Joe Weber said drivers need to be extra diligent when sharing the road – meaning check mirrors, leave extra room between vehicles and use turn signals to help prevent crashes and save lives.

“We’re constantly told drivers simply didn’t see the motorcyclist until it’s too late,” Weber said in a release. “As drivers, it is incumbent upon us to be fully aware of our surroundings at all times and take proactive measures to ensure the safety of motorcyclists.”

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